

## Message Text

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64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 172202Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5687

INFO DOD/DIA

USCINCSO

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 4354

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ CI, PINS, PINT, MILI

SUBJ: ASSESSMENT OF ARMED RESISTANCE TO NEW GOC

REF: (A) SANTIAGO 4310; (B) SANTIAGO 4323 (PARA 1)

1. THIS IS A FOLLOWUP TO YESTERDAY'S REFTEL A.
  2. ARMED RESISTANCE TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO HAVE DIMINISHED OVER THE PAST DAY. THERE HAVE BEEN NO RPT NO MAJOR ASSAULTS ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS SINCE THOSE REPORTED IN REFTEL A. VARIOUS MILITARY SOURCES HAVE REPORTED THAT NEW GOVERNMENT FEELS THAT IT HAS THE INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.
  3. GREATER SANTIAGO. THE CENTER OF SANTIAGO REMAINS GENERALLY CALM. STREETS ARE CLOGGED WITH CARS AND SHOPPER - AND SPORADIC FIRING WHICH HAD PUNCTUATED PREVIOUS DAYS HAS ENDED. GOVT CONTINUES TO CLOSE RING AROUND EXTREMISTS WHO HAVE TAKEN REFUGE IN LOWER CLASS HOUSING AREAS ON OUTSKIRTS OF CITY. MILITARY ATTACK CONDUCTED YESTERDAY A.M. ON LA LEGUA SUBURB. AIR SUPPORT PRESENT BUT NO INDICATION THAT PLANES ACTUALLY BOMBED OR STRAFED AREAS. PRESS REPORTS EXTREMELY TERSE BUT ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE -- WHO DID NOT SEE THE ACTION HIMSELF -- MILITARY GAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO LEAVE AREA AND THEN PROCEEDED TO ATTACK IN FULL FORCE. HEAVY GUNFIRE WAS HEARD EARLY MORNING HOURS SEPT 17 NEAR QUINTA NORMAL AREA BUT NOT INDICATION AS YET WHAT TRANSPIRED.
- SECRET

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MILITARY CONTINUE TO CORDON OFF LARGE AREAS AND ENTER AND SEARCH FOR ARMS. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT LITTLE RESISTANCE IS BEING MET. IN HIS TV APPEARANCE LAST NIGHT (REFTEL B), MININTERIOR BONILLA SAID 4,000 SUSPECTS ARE AT PRESENT DETAINED IN SANTIAGO.

4. VALPARAISO - VINA DEL MAR. EMBOFF WHO VISITED VALPARAISO  
SEPT 16 REPORTS CITY CALM. NO SHOTS WERE HEARD DURING NIGHT AND  
ON SEPT 17 MORNING CITY PRESENTED BUSINESS- AS-USUAL AIR.  
ARMS RAIDS CONTINUE.

5. CONCEPCION - GREATER CONCEPCION REMAINS CALM. NUMEROUS  
PRESS ARTICLES RELATE SMOOTHNESS OF FIRST DAY'S ROUND-UP OF  
EXTREMISTS. ACCORDING TO AREA'S COMMANDING GENERAL CARRASCO,  
THERE WERE NO WOUNDED AND NO DEAD. CONCEPCION HAS LONG BEEN  
NOTED FOR ITS ULTRALEFT FORCES. IT SEEMS DOUBTFUL - THOUGH OF  
COURSE POSSIBLE - THAT ALL OF THE ARMED EXTREMISTS COULD  
HAVE BEEN PICKED UP SO EASILY. SUSPICION EXISTS THAT RELATIVE  
QUIET OF CONCEPCION AREA MAY MEAN THAT REMAINING EXTREMISTS HAVE  
GONE UNDERGROUND TO AWAIT A MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TIME FOR ANTI-GOVT  
ACTIONS.

6. REST OF COUNTRY - WE STILL HAVE IMPRESSION THAT REST  
IS ESSENTIALLY QUIET WITH ONLY ISOLATED INCIDENTS OF RESISTANCE  
BEING REPORTED.

SECRET

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